

In The Claims:

Claims 1-8. (Previously canceled).

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) A low basis weight nonwoven fabric, comprising:

a web of hydroentangled 0.2 to 3.0 denier polymeric filaments formed from a relatively lightly bonded, spunbond precursor web, said filaments being arranged in a substantially uniform array on a hydroentangling device, having a foraminous forming surface, and hydroentangled so that bonds between said filaments are broken and the filaments are entangled with each other;

said fabric having a basis weight from about 10 to about 30 grams per square meter, and a cross-direction tensile strength of at least about 827 grams per centimeter.

Claim 10. (Original) A low basis weight nonwoven fabric in accordance with claim 9, wherein:

said polymeric filaments comprise substantially continuous filaments.

Claim 11. (Original) A low basis weight nonwoven fabric in accordance with claim 9, wherein:

said filaments comprise spunbond polyester filaments having about 1.5 denier.

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A low basis weight nonwoven fabric in accordance with claim 10, wherein:

said web of hydroentangled polymeric filament is formed from a spunbond precursor web which is bonded to have no more than a minimum tensile strength which permits winding and unwinding of said precursor webs.